(b) Due to the exodus, there is a shortage of Commanders on all types of aircraft, resulting in lesser utilisation of aircraft leading to an approximate loss of Rs. 80 crores during the year 1994-95.

(c) Private airlines are paying much higher emoluments as compared to Indian Airlines.

Fall in earnings of AI and IA

300. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA:
DR. BAPU KALDATE:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the foreign airlines operating in the country have made considerable dent in the earnings of Air India and Indian Airlines during 1993-94;

(b) if so, what is the estimated fall in the revenue earnings of the Air India and Indian Airlines during 1992-93 and 1993-94 and since the begining of the financial year 1994-95;

(c) what are the names of the sectors which have shown fall in the Air India and Indian Airlines earnings; and

(d) what measures have been taken to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) While Air India's share of the Indian air market has declined due to the operation of foreign airlines, there has been an increase in the total revenue earning by Air India in 1993-94 compared to 1992-93. In 1994-95 also, no significant reduction in revenue is expected. So far as Indian Airlines is concerned, operation of foreign airlines do not adversely affect its revenues.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) To improve its market share, Air India has taken the following steps:—

(1) Fleet modernisation;

(2) Network expansion;

(3) Production upgradation;

(4) Introduction of schemes, like frequent fliers Programme, Hub & Spoke operations etc. with Indian Airlines, for tapping the Indian market.

Loss to IA, AI and Tourism Industry due to plague

301. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:
SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what is the extent of total losses suffered by Air India, Indian Airlines and other Airways operating in the country and Tourism Department due to the recent outbreak of plague in Surat and certain other places in the country;

(b) which are the foreign Airlines which suspended their flights to and through India on account of plague together with the dates on which each of these Airlines had suspended and restored these flights;

(c) to what extent Missions abroad particularly in East have been successful in projecting the true picture and removing the apprehensions about plague in India;

(d) what are the details of the losses suffered by each of the chain of hotels due to the suspension of flights by the foreign tourists (month-wise) so far in 1994;

(e) what is the present position about the visit of foreign tourists to India and how far the normal position has been restored in this behalf; and

(f) what steps Government have taken to offset this loss and how far Government have succeeded in achieving the results?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (f) Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha.

Dispute between NAA and Tirupati Devasthanams

302. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a dispute is going on between NAA and Tirupati Devasthanam; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Sahara India Airlines

303. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state: what is the damage claimed by International Airport Authority Sahara India Airident and the action

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): The International Airports Authority of India (IAAI) has preferred a claim of Rs. 5.67 crores for damages caused to its property by the crash of Sahara India Airlines aircraft on 08-03-1994. The IAAI is pursuing the matter with the Insurance Company of the Sahara India Airlines for early payment of the claim. Pending settlement of the final claim, the IAAI has received an adhoc payment of Rs. 1.5 crores so far.

Construction of New Runways in Gujarat

304. SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to construct new runways in Gujarat in near future to attract more tourists in the state;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to upgrade the existing airports; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Upgradation of airport is a continuing process and is taken up in phased manner depending upon projected requirement and availability of resources. National Airports Authority has plans to modernise the following airports in Gujarat:—

(1) AHMEDABAD Primary and Secondary Surveillance Radars are proposed to be installed at an estimated cost of Rs. 30.00 crores. The work of installation is expected to be completed by July, 1995.

(2) VADODARA A new terminal building is under construction at a cost of Rs. 11.43 crores and is expected to be completed by March, 1995. The resurfacing of runway has already been completed at a cost of Rs. 2.05 crores. The Instrument Landing System (ILS) and Distance Measuring Equipment